

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 and 6-16 are pending in the present application. No claims are amended herein.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ewert, *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 7,054,620, hereinafter “Ewert”) in view of Loushine (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0232189, hereinafter “Loushine”). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Applicant notes that Loushine has an earliest filing date of February 26, 2004, while the present application claims priority to CN 03146220.0 filed on July 4, 2003. That is, the present application has an effective filing date prior to that of Loushine. Therefore, Loushine is an improper reference under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Since all the claim rejections relied on Loushine, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims are allowable.

Allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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